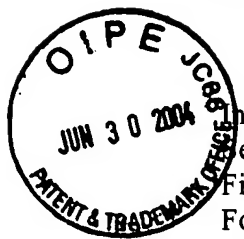


IFW

Attorney Docket No.: 0075-2

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of: Edward Bilenski et al.      Group Art Unit: N/A  
Serial No.: 10/822,243      Examiner: N/A  
Filed: April 9, 2004  
For: "SINGLE USE, SELF-CONTAINED TWIST RESISTANT  
SURGICAL KNIFE"  
Matter No.: 0075-2

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA  
22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(b)**

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents, which are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner may deem these documents to be relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application. Copies of the foreign patents and other documents, excluding US patent and US patent application publications, are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.


The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any of the documents constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

It is understood that no fee is necessary for submission of this Information Disclosure Statement, as it is being filed before the later of three months from the filing date or the mailing of the first Office Action on the merits.

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that no additional fee is required for this Information Disclosure Statement. However, in the event that the Commissioner deems that an additional fee is required, it is respectfully requested that applicant's attorney be contacted and accorded an opportunity to pay such additional fee.

Respectfully submitted,

  
 Ernest D. Buff  
 Reg. No. 25,833

**Enclosures**

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Dated: June 22, 2004

**Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail**

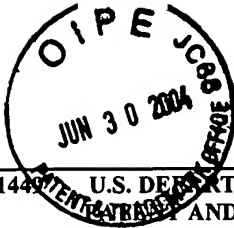
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 22, 2004.



*Signature*

Ernest D. Buff  
*Attorney of Record*

June 22, 2004  
*(Date)*



FORM PTO-1449 (Rev. 2-32)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO: 0075-2	SERIAL NO.: 10/822,243
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT: Edward Bilenski et al.	
(Use several sheets if necessary)		FILING DATE: April 9, 2004	GROUP: N/A

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	845,792	03/05/07	L.E. Jenkins	N/A	N/A	12-03-06
	1,424,221	08/01/22	G. Trumpeter	N/A	N/A	03-08-22
	2,512,237	06/20/50	E.E. Mravik	30	151	03-12-48
	3,906,626	09/23/75	Riuli	30	162	04-19-74
	5,330,492	07/19/94	Haugen	606	167	10-21-92
	5,417,704	05/23/95	Wonderley	606	167	12-20-93
	5,556,409	09/17/96	Haining	606	181	08-04-95
	5,741,288	04/21/98	Rife	606	181	06-27-96
	5,779,724	07/14/98	Werner	606	167	05-24-96
	5,908,432	06/01/99	Pan	606	167	03-27-98
	6,022,364	02/08/00	Flumene et al.	606	166	10-24-95

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

							TRANSLATION	
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	PATENTEE OR APPLICANT	CLASS	SUBCLASS		YES	NO

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.